

## WEST Search History

DATE: Wednesday, February 26, 2003

<u>Set Name</u>	<u>Query</u>	<u>Hit Count</u>	<u>Set Name</u>
side by side			result set
<i>DB=USPT,PGPB,JPAB,EPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=YES; OP=OR</i>			
L4	sale adj purchase adj commodity	4	L4
L3	L2 and sale adj purchase adj commodity	0	L3
L2	L1 and using adj internet	7	L2
L1	home adj equity adj loan	68	L1

END OF SEARCH HISTORY

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**WEST****End of Result Set**

Generate Collection

Print

L11: Entry 2 of 2

File: USPT

Mar 14, 2000

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6038537 A

**\*\* See image for Certificate of Correction \*\***

TITLE: Intra-organization cooperation system, commodity deal management method, and storage medium

Brief Summary Text (32):

The contents of the deal of the commodity is, for example, any of the prices of commodities stored in the commodity information storing unit as the values of lending and borrowing incurred by the deal of the commodity as it is, the price obtained by subtracting a certain amount of money from the price, and "0". Otherwise, the deal of the commodity itself may be prohibited.

Detailed Description Text (84):

FIG. 6 exemplifies the deal registration database 53, shown in FIG. 3. This database manages names of commodities which were dealt, names of members who purchased the commodities, prices of the commodities (numeric values of lending, which are set by commodity providers), reputation values of the commodities (reputation values that commodity receivers set for the commodities), and dates of deals of the commodities.

Detailed Description Text (85):

FIG. 7 exemplifies the commodity information database 54, shown in FIG. 3. This database manages names of commodities to be provided to members, specifications of the commodities (information about what a program relates to etc.), names of providers of the commodities, prices of the commodities (numeric values of lending, which are set by commodity providers), times of labor required for providing the commodities (self-declared by the commodity providers), costs required for providing the commodities (which are self-declared by the commodity providers), brand names (which are arbitrarily set by the commodity providers, on the condition that they are unique) of the commodity providers, names (hereinafter referred to as essential commodity names) of original commodities from which the commodities were changed, if any change is made to the commodities) and registration dates of the commodities. Each of the prices of the commodities can be arbitrarily set by a commodity provider, for example, on the basis of labor (the amount of labor time) required for providing the commodity. Note that, however, in a case such as the sale of a commodity becoming slow if a price which is too high compared with the original price of the commodity is set, the marketing theory is applied. Therefore, the actual price is decided/changed in consideration of the balance between supply and demand.

Detailed Description Text (97):

The intra-organization cooperation implementation program 50 calculates the total of the prices (equivalent to the sales) of commodities sold by commodity providers who issued a registration request in a predetermined period by referencing the deal registration database 53, and calculates the total amounts of labor time/costs (equivalent to the cost price) required for providing the commodities, by referencing the commodity information database 54. It is desirable that the intra-organization cooperation implementation program 50 raises the upper limit if the result obtained by subtracting the latter total from the former total is a positive value, that is, it indicates a black-ink; and lowers the upper limit if the result is a negative value, that is, it indicates a red-ink. With this

configuration, also a commodity which requires a considerable amount of labor time and a high cost is permitted to be registered for a person who makes a successful deal, while only a commodity which requires a small amount of labor time and a low cost is permitted to be registered for a person who makes an unsuccessful deal.

Detailed Description Text (100):

The commodity list screen shown in FIG. 9A obtains the names, specifications and prices of commodities which can be dealt from the commodity information database 54, and displays these items of information. This commodity list screen makes commodity providers anonymous so as not to worsen human relationships within an organization.

Detailed Description Text (101):

The commodity list screen shown in FIG. 9B obtains the names, specifications and prices of commodities which can be dealt, and the brand names of providers of the commodities from the commodity information database 54, and displays these items of information. This commodity list screen displays the brand names of commodity providers so as not to worsen human relationships, and to display the quality of the commodities.

Detailed Description Text (102):

The commodity list screen shown in FIG. 9C obtains the names, specifications, prices of commodities which can be dealt and the brand names of the providers of the commodities from the commodity information database 54, obtains a reputation value (an average value, if a plurality of reputation values are registered) of the commodities, and displays the value. Since the reputation value of the commodity providers can be obtained by referencing the deal registration database 53 and the commodity information database 54, it is possible to display the reputation value in addition to the above described commodity information. This commodity list screen can accurately display the quality of a commodity, regardless of brand name, by displaying the reputation value of the commodities. Note that the brand name may not necessarily be displayed.

Detailed Description Text (133):

If the current price is not determined to change from the previous price ("NO" in step S42), the process goes to step S46 where the current deal is made using the same price as that of the previous deal. If the current price is determined to change from the previous price ("YES" in step S42), the process goes to step S43 where the current price is calculated. In step S44, the current deal is made using the calculated price. In step S45, the process identifies the deal of the commodity which was previously made by referencing the deal registration database 53, calculates the difference between the price of the identified deal and that of the current deal, and changes the balance registered to the personal information database 52 to the balance using the current price according to the calculated difference.

Detailed Description Text (155):

Assuming that a commodity .beta. is generated by changing a commodity .alpha., the value of lending "200" is provided to the commodity provider who generated the commodity .alpha., and the value of lending "100" is provided to the commodity provider who changed the commodity .beta.. Furthermore, the value of borrowing "300" is registered to a commodity receiver who deals the commodity .beta.. Note that a price increase due to a change of a commodity is determined by making a self-declaration by the person who changes the commodity. The price is set to be high or low according to the [value of the change. The essential commodity may sometimes be plural, or a commodity having an essential commodity name (changed commodity) itself may be an essential commodity of another commodity.

Detailed Description Text (167):

With the intra-organization cooperation system, commodities are developed in a computer (or a plurality of computers) as described above. The location at which the commodities are placed is called a "shop". A commodity provider and a commodity receiver, that is, users, access this shop via an input device such as a terminal etc. The values of lending and borrowing registered when a certain commodity is provided are called "prices". The commodity provider recognizes his or her know-how, knowledge, providable service and labor as commodities, and exhibits them with the

prices and specifications attached in the shop. The commodity receiver searches for his or her desired commodity from the shop.

Detailed Description Text (189):

Still further, with the present system, a price of a commodity is expressed using not a constant but an expression. For example, the number of people who purchased commodities is used as a variable. At this time, the price is calculated from the number of people who purchased the commodities. A person who previously made a purchase paid a price higher than the current one. In this case, the difference between the two prices is repaid to a person who made a purchase at a higher price. Whether or not the difference is repaid may be defined at the time of a first purchase. Accordingly, it is no longer required that a commodity receiver refrains from making a purchase in consideration of a future drop in price. As occasion demands, the incentive to make a purchase earlier may be provided by repaying a higher price to a person who made a purchase at an early stage, or repaying an amount of money more than the purchase price.

CLAIMS:

40. An intra-organization cooperation system for sharing labor or knowledge within an organization, comprising:

a commodity which can be labor or knowledge;

a database storing commodity information including prices of commodities;

an association device determining an association between a commodity provider and a commodity receiver;

an assessment device assessing a scale of a deal based upon size of risk of the deal;

a deciding device deciding on the success of the deal based upon the association and the assessed scale of the deal; and

a valuation device, upon success of the deal, determining values of lending and borrowing according to commodity information in the database, which then updates the information in the database.

42. A method for managing commodities, which include labor and knowledge, within an organization, comprising:

storing commodity information in a database;

examining an association between a commodity provider and a commodity receiver;

examining a scale of a deal based upon risk of the deal;

determining whether to make the deal based upon the association and the scale of the deal; and

upon determination to make the deal, making the deal by deciding values of lending and borrowing based on information in the database, and then updating the database.

43. A computer readable storage medium, storing a method for managing commodities, which include labor and knowledge, within an organization, comprising:

storing commodity information in a database;

examining an association between a commodity provider and a commodity receiver;

examining a scale of a deal based upon risk of the deal;

determining whether to make the deal based upon the association and the scale of the deal; and

upon determination to make the deal, making the deal by deciding values of lending and borrowing based on information in the database, and then updating the database.